



## **NEW ZEALAND EUROPE BUSINESS COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE 2011 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

It gives me great pleasure to present the Report for the 2010-2011 activities of the New Zealand Europe Business Council, following on from the Presidents report given at the AGM held in late June last year.

### **Membership and Finance**

Our Treasurer will be reporting on the accounts separately; however I think it should be emphasised as always that the Committee aim to ensure each function held or activity undertaken is self-funding. As the Committee acts on an honorary basis there are very few additional costs to cover each year, especially with the EU Web portal being funded out of the National Centre of Research on Europe "Gateway to Europe" funding program.

The Committee does not foresee the need to raise subscriptions beyond their nominal level of \$50 for an associate and \$100 for a full member; however the incoming committee will be tasked with reviewing the membership list as a whole and ensuring it complies with the constitution of one full member per country, or possibly coming up with another solution.

In fact it seems it is time for a complete review of the constitution – something always necessary, from time to time, in membership organisations as they grow and evolve. We would welcome your contributions and thoughts regarding this as many of you have experience with other membership organisations and can no doubt bring good common sense to the table.

I also ask again that you, as members, take a look at the member list (appendix I) and consider contacting those relevant organisations from the country you represent, who are not members and ask them to consider becoming members. The more involvement, the more effective we can be as an organisation.

### **Bilateral Trade**

Representing 27 member states and 500 million people, the EU is the world's largest economic entity. The EU is a vitally important market for New Zealand, second only to Australia in importance as a market for New Zealand goods, and not to be forgotten add the remaining countries of Europe to this and the relationship is even more vital. Europe is the third largest provider of foreign direct investment here, and travel is a consistent and important part of trade.

The recent visit of European Commissioner Karel De Gucht to New Zealand - the first by an EU Trade Commissioner from Brussels since Mr Pascal Lamy came in 2004 – highlights the ongoing importance of New Zealand's relationship with the EU.

At a reception organised by the NZ-Europe Business Council he offered his perspectives on the importance of strong, free trade flows, the world's attempts to conclude a new multilateral trade deal (the 'Doha' round), progress on free trade agreements and how a successful EU-NZ business relationship counts in this ever-complex world.

Also on our radar is the announcement made by Prime Minister John Key, at the APEC summit late last year, about the desire to begin negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement with Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

### **On-going Activities**

The NZ Europe Business council continues to actively participate in uploading information on the “**Gateway to the European Union in New Zealand**” web portal and I have personally attended a number of the **EU Market Access meetings**. These meetings are proving to be very effective with the import of consumer ready cuts of uncooked pork from countries such as the EU, with PRRS, now being permitted as of today. The introduction of raw milk cheeses last year to the market has also enhanced the selection of product on New Zealand shelves. The next issue to be tackled is olive oil.

The NZEBC has also not only organised a variety of **events it has also continued to promote those of its members** where possible.

To enhance the standing of the NZ Europe Business council, I believe it is now important to take a step further into **providing strong promotional platforms** for our members to utilise in increasing the flow of European products into New Zealand – such as the Taste of Europe stand and similar. The establishment of a small database of European subsidiaries with a base in New Zealand is a step in this direction as well, but it should be added this is still very much a work in progress with just on 50% of the companies so far consenting to us contacting them by email for survey purposes. At present the subsidiary list consists of the following breakdown Germany (83), United Kingdom (69), Netherlands (30), Denmark (22), France (21), Italy (10), Sweden (9), Belgium (3), Finland (3), Austria (2) and Ireland(2).

The first survey of the consenting companies was conducted earlier this year and the results were distributed to the membership in summary form – this was also provided to the Delegation to the EU giving them useful information for their reporting purposes.

### **Up-coming Activities**

I thought it appropriate to utilise this opportunity to brief you on some of the upcoming events we encourage you to diarise. I have also attached a screen shot from the EU Web portal Appendix II):

Europe Day evening event in Wellington, 10th May

Europe Day lunch in Auckland, either on the 6th or 13th May

Polish Presidency Concert, Auckland 30th June

President Barroso visit in conjunction with the Pacific Islands Forum, Auckland, 7-10th Sept.

George Cunningham’s farewell later this year

Of course some will also have heavy involvement in the Rugby World Cup coming up.

At this point I would like to thank the committee for their ongoing support and contributions throughout the year, stepping in at times also to cover me when my day job demanded I be in Europe. A very special thank you to Peter Deutsche, our treasurer, for the support he has provided not only with the financials throughout the year but also with the necessary paperwork for this AGM.

**Monique Surges**

**President**

**New Zealand Europe Business Council**

**13 April 2011**

## Appendix I

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>Firstname</u>
British Consulate-General	Harris	Barbara
British NZ Business Association	Andrew	Tony
Consular Agency of Italy	Magaraggia	Cav. Mario M
Consulate General & Trade Commissioner Austria	Stock	Guido
Consulate of Austria	Goeschl	Reinhold
Consulate of Belgium	Peterson	Laetitia
Consulate of Belgium (Christchurch)	Bierque	Lieve
Consulate of Portugal	Silva	Daniel
Consulate of Romania	Davidson	Giff
Consulate of Spain	Regueiro-Diaz	Antonio
Consulate of Switzerland	Deuschle	Peter
Consulate of the Czech Republic	Shanahan	Gregory
Consulate of the Republic of Hungary	Szabo	Miklos
Consulate of the Republic of Latvia	Bentley	Margarita
Consulate of the Republic of Lithuania	Peciulaitis	Jurgis
Consulate of the Republic of Malta	Thake	Patricia
Consulate of the Republic of Poland	Roy	John
Consulate of the Republic of Slovakia	Kiely	Peter
Consulate-General of Finland	Hallenberg	Ari
Embassy of Switzerland	Buckrell	Wivian
Enterprise Ireland	Gallogly	Treza
European Commission Delegation to New Zealand	Cunningham	George
Flanders Investment & Trade, Auckland	Surmont	Nathalie
French New Zealand Chamber of Commerce	Watts	Victoria
French Trade Commission	Amigues	Monique
Italian Chamber of Commerce	Maxwell	Liz
Italian Trade Commission	Anning	David
Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade (Europe Division)	Wolland	Joan
Netherlands - New Zealand Business Association Inc.	Gardebroek	Ronald
New Zealand German Business Assn	Surges	Monique
NZ Scandanavian Business Association	Enhbohm	Stig
NZTE	White	Kari
Royal Norwegian Consulate	Robinson	John
University of Auckland	Mayes	David
University of Auckland	Benson-Rea	Maureen
University of Canterbury	Holland	Martin

## Appendix II

**Please remember to keep an eye on the website [www.eu.org.nz](http://www.eu.org.nz) as this is updated frequently!  
If you would like an event added to the calendar email details to [nzebc@eu.org.nz](mailto:nzebc@eu.org.nz)**

### Gateway to the European Union In New Zealand







Home
Diplomatic Representation
European Organisations
New Zealand Organisations
Countries
Events
Events Review





























#### Coming Events:

**April**

13th April 2011	<a href="#">NZEBC Annual General Meeting - Auckland</a>
27th April 2011	<a href="#">Lunch with Supercity Mayor, Len Brown</a>
28th April 2011	<a href="#">Dutch Queen's Birthday - Christchurch</a>
29th April 2011	<a href="#">Dutch Queen's Birthday - Wellington</a>
29th April 2011	<a href="#">Dutch Queen's Birthday - Auckland</a>

**May**

3 May 2011	<a href="#">National Day of the Republic of Poland</a>
4th May 2011	<a href="#">An Evening at Raines</a>
9 May 2011	<a href="#">Europe Day (Official Day of Celebration)</a>
10th May 2011	<a href="#">Europe Day Reception, Wellington</a>

**June**

June 2011 -date TBC	<a href="#">NZGBA Annual General Meeting</a>
2nd June 2011	<a href="#">Republic Day - Italy</a>
5 June 2011	<a href="#">Day of Constitution of Denmark</a>
6th June 2011	<a href="#">Queen's Birthday</a>
6 June 2011	<a href="#">National Day of Sweden</a>
10th June 2011	<a href="#">Portugal Day</a>
23rd June 2011	<a href="#">Luxembourg National Day</a>
25th June 2011	<a href="#">Statehood Day - Slovenia</a>
26 - 28 June 2011	<a href="#">Build New Zealand - German Pavillion</a>

**July**

14th July 2011	<a href="#">French National Day ("Bastille Day") - Wellington, Auckland</a>
15th July 2011	<a href="#">Winterfest</a>
21 July 2011	<a href="#">National Day of Belgium</a>

**August**

**September**

1 September 2011	<a href="#">Day of Constitution of Slovakia</a>
6th September 2011	<a href="#">Pacific Islands Forum, Auckland</a>
10th September 2011	<a href="#">Rugby World Cup - France/Japan - Auckland</a>

Upcoming Events:

- [NZEBC Annual General Meeting - Auckland](#)
- [Lunch with Supercity Mayor, Len Brown](#)
- [Dutch Queen's Birthday - Christchurch](#)
- [NZEBC 2010 AGM Review](#)



Delegation of the European Union to New Zealand



JOINT DECLARATION on Relations and Cooperation between the European Union & New Zealand

The Lisbon Treaty:  
What Does It Mean?



trio.hu



EU Market Access Team  
Open for Business



EUC Network



EuTube